

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A laundry dryer control method comprising the steps of:
initiating a drying procedure;
measuring a temperature ~~variation rate~~;
calculating temperature variation rate;
calculating ~~an overall~~ a drying time based on the ~~measured~~ temperature variation rate;
and
performing the drying procedure for the calculated ~~overall~~ drying time.
2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said
calculating step is repeated if a substantial increase in the temperature variation rate is detected.
3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
calculating changes in temperature variation rate; and
determining whether a change in temperature variation rate is substantial
~~wherein the temperature variation rate is 1°C per minute.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
calculating ~~measuring~~ a plurality of temperature variation rates.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:
determining whether there is a substantial increase in the temperature variation rate as a function of the plurality of measured temperature variation rates.

6. (New) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the substantial increase is determined by comparing changes in the plurality of temperature variation rates.

7. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said drying time calculating step comprises:

calculating a remaining drying time, wherein a performance of drying for the remaining drying time completes the drying procedure.

8. (New) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the remaining drying time is based on a known drying pattern, the known drying pattern varying according to an amount and type of laundry.

9. (New) A laundry dryer comprising:
a drum for accommodating laundry being dried during a drying procedure;
a temperature sensor for periodically measuring an internal temperature with respect to said drum and outputting a signal indicative of said internal temperature; and
a microcomputer for calculating a plurality of temperature variation rates as a function of the temperature sensor output signal, for calculating changes in temperature variation rate, and for deriving an overall drying time based on the temperature variation rates, wherein said

microcomputer controls a plurality of drivers that drive a heater, motor and exhaust fan for a period of time after the change in temperature variation rate exceeds a predetermined value.

10. (New) The laundry dryer as claimed in claim 9, wherein the period of time is a remaining drying time based on a known drying pattern, the known drying pattern varying according to an amount and type of the laundry being dried.

11. (New) The laundry dryer as claimed in claim 10, wherein the predetermined value indicates a substantial increase in temperature variation rate.

12. (New) A laundry dryer comprising:
a drum for accommodating laundry being dried during a drying procedure;
a temperature sensor for periodically measuring an internal temperature with respect to said drum and outputting a signal indicative of measurements of a plurality of temperature variation rates obtained during the drying procedure; and
a microcomputer for comparing the measurements to calculate an overall drying time and for controlling a plurality of drivers for driving a heater, motor, and exhaust fan according to the comparison, wherein the control of the plurality of drivers continues for a predetermined time after the measured temperature variation rate first exceeds a predetermined value.

13. (New) The laundry dryer as claimed in claim 12, wherein the predetermined time is a remaining drying time based on a known drying pattern, the known drying pattern varying according to an amount and type of the laundry being dried.

14. (New) The laundry dryer as claimed in claim 13, wherein the predetermined value indicates a substantial increase in measurements of the plurality of the temperature variation rates according to the known drying pattern.

15. (New) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein determining a change in temperature variation rate is substantial comprises:

determining whether the change in temperature variation rate exceeds 1°C per minute.